THE MESSENGER
OF THE OAKLAND STAKE OF ZION

Vol. 6 — OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, MARCH, 1936 — No. 3

Gail Cragun

RELIEF SOCIETY

Next Tuesday, March 17, the Relief Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will observe the anniversary of its organization.

Ninety-four years it will soon be since the Prophet Joseph Smith said to the first members of the Relief Society:

"And I now turn the key to you in the name of God, and this Society shall rejoice, and knowledge and intelligence shall flow down from this time."

"This charitable Society is according to your natures: it is natural for women to have feelings of charity. You are now placed in a position where you can act according to these sympathies which God has planted in your bosoms. . . . If you live up to your privileges the angels cannot be restrained from being your associates. . .This Society is not only to relieve the poor, but to save souls. . . You should be armed always with mercy. If you would have God have mercy on you, have mercy on one another. . . Be pure in heart. . . By union of feeling, we obtain power with God."

The man of God did just that. As with the restoration of the Gospel, light such as the world had never known began to dawn on mankind, so with the organization of the Relief Society began a new era for woman.

The key was turned and the world today knows the power for good of women's organizations in every great endeavor. The Relief Society has kept the vision. It is abreast today with other great units of womenkind that have risen throughout the world. In its sphere its constant endeavor has been to fill the mission outlined by its founder, the Prophet.

Left to right — Owen L. Stewart, Clarence W. Lesser, Leo. J. Perry, Clifford E. Johnston, Leonard J. Phister, and Wiliam A. Millet.

GENEALOGY

Temples, according to the revelations of the Lord, are sanctuaries specially dedicated for sacred rites and ceremonies pertaining to exaltation in the celestial kingdom of God. They are sanctified for the purpose of performing ordinances for and making covenants with the pure in heart who have proved themselves by faithful service worthy of the blessings of exaltation.

Shortly after the organization of the Church and when the membership was small, the Lord commanded the saints to build a temple in which He could reveal the keys of authority and where the apostles could be endowed and prepared to "prune His Vineyard for the last time." This temple was built, and on the third day of April, 1836, the Savior came to it. The same day Moses restored the keys of the gathering of Israel from the four parts of the earth, Elias committed the keys of the dispensation of Abraham, and Elijah restored the keys of the sealing power, by which the ordinances in the temple are bound in heaven as well as on earth, for both the living and the dead.

Only in the temple of the Lord can the fulness of the priesthood be received. Now that temples are on earth, there is no other place where the endowment and the sealing powers for all eternity can be given. No man can receive the keys of exaltation in any other place. Joseph Smith has said that "the saints have not too much time to save and redeem their dead—before the earth will be smitten and the consumption decreed falls upon the world."

In the temples the saints are performing the ordinances which will insure, through faithfulness, the fulness of the blessings of the kingdom of God. During the past century the Church has been true to this calling, and the prospect for the future is good.

This work shall go on through the millenium until redemption shall come to all who are worthy to receive it.

Gems from Joseph Fielding Smith

CONGRATULATIONS

One of the commendable achievements of the church is the development of stake newspapers, of which one of the most interesting and complete is the Maricopa Stake News.

REORGANIZATION

The Hayward Branch presidency was reorganized by the Stake Presidency on Sunday, February 2, 1936, at which time Pres. Clifford E. Johnston, and his counselors, Leonard J. Phister and William A. Millet, and Ward Clerk Leo J. Perry were honorably released. Brother Leo J. Perry was sustained as the new president. He chose as his counselors Clarence W. Lesser and Owen L. Stewart, until he moved here recently, a member of the Chandler Ward Bishopric, in Chandler, Arizona. The new clerk is Brother Leonard J. Phister.

The Hayward Branch was organized as a part of the California Mission on March 4, 1928. The first presidency were Wilford T. Webb, Guy B. Collins, and Dr. Leo J. Perry, with Vaughn E. Livingston, now attending the Brigham Young University, as Clerk. The presidency just released took their places on September 8, 1932, while the Branch was still a part of the mission.

The Branch became a part of the Stake on March 6, 1933. There was no change made in the presidency at that time. The people of Hayward Branch recently purchased a building lot. It is all paid for and a building campaign may be expected there in the near future.

The brethren who have just been released leave their positions with the full confidence and love of the people and the Stake presidency. They have done their work faithfully and well, and are entitled to all the blessings flowing therefrom.

The new presidency are men of experience and resourcefulness. Much progress may be expected under their presidency. The Messenger wishes them success, and congratulates the Hayward Branch on the progress they are making. It probably won't be very long until this branch will become a Ward.

Hereafter The Messenger will be issued on the second Sunday of each month. You will help us prevent delay by sending in your "copy" not later than the preceding Monday.

THE MESSENGER

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

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"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me; and the Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple."—Mal. 3:1

Vol. 6 March, 1936 No. 3

BE YE CLEAN

One of the most definite and positive statements made by Jesus was "Be Ye Clean." Cleanliness is referred to in scripture in many ways. We are told that the Savior cleansed the lepers. He cleansed the Temple by driving out those who defiled it. He referred to "unclean spirits." He set the example of washing the feet as a symbol of cleanliness of body. To the lepers he said, "Be thou clean." He referred to unclean food. He chided the Pharisees with respect to cleanliness and likened them to "whited sepulchres—full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness."

Surely the many references made by the Master to cleanliness, or lack of it, and the many ways in which he applied its meaning, indicates to Him cleanliness of body, of thought, of actions, of food, of raiment, were of extreme importance.

In our own generation cleanliness is no less important. Present standards of cleanliness of food, body and clothing have saved many thousands of lives. Likewise clean thoughts and actions have saved many thousands of souls.

Physical, mental and moral cleanliness are enjoined upon all Latter-day Saints. We should remember and be guided by the words of the Savior, "Be Ye Clean."

Ward Teacher's Message for April

HIGH COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

ALAMEDA—G. Ellis and Reed Chase.
BERKELEY—O. L. Stone, E. Carr, and J. Kay.
DIMOND—W. T. Hicker and R. Paine.
ELMHURST—I. B. Ball and G. E. Elliot.
HAYWARD—C. C. Carr and Geo. F. Bodowen.
MARTINEZ—Don Wood and H. Neering.
OAKLAND—D. F. Wright and P. W. Jackson.
PITTSBURG—Brother Fisher and Orland Olson.
RICHMOND—C. M. Dewsnip and O. Fontana.
VALLEJO—D. J. Allphin and B. Cox.

DAWN

Listen to the Exhortation of the Dawn!
Look to this Day!
For it is Life, the very Life of Life.
In its brief course lie all the
Verities and Realities of your existence;
The bliss of Growth,
The glory of Action,
The Splendor of Beauty;
For yesterday is but a Dream
And tomorrow is only a Vision;
But today well lived makes
Every Yesterday a Dream of Happiness,
And every Tomorrow a Vision of Hope.
Such is the Salutation of the Dawn.

—Anonymous

"NOW WHAT'S THIS?"

Unique Display Attracts Attention

"'I don't believe in God, but every time I pass this way something grips me, and I stop and read the things in this window. It seems to give me more and more faith in a Supreme Being.'"

Mrs. Stienbach, an investigator, quoted the foregoing expression she overheard one morning from an observer in front of the "Mormon" Reading Room in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Although this woman is a devout member of another church, she is reading the Book of Mormon as well as other Church literature, and is coming to appreciate the Gospel truths. Her first contact with members of the L. D. S. Church came through the reading room, and she says she believes the reading room is doing much good. The displays attract much attention and give a better understanding of the aims and ideals of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Unique devices arrest the passing throngs. "Life Is No Gamble," one reads as he glances towards the window. "What's this?" he ponders as he comes closer to the display. Before him is a spinning arrow.

"Oh, a gambling wheel," he thinks, as he sees the wheel with its eighteen colors radiating from the central point. But then he examines the wheel more closely as he remembers the caption of the display, "Life Is No Gamble." Instead of the numbers commonly found on gambling devices, he sees the words "Truth," "Eternal Life," "Immortality," "Wisdom," "Poise," "Hate," "Grief," and other such faults and graces konwn to mankind. "Surely," the observer concludes, "this means that our lives are governed, not by chance, but by immutable principles of truth. That is certainly an excellent thought."

"Now what's this?" he continues as his eye wanders from the wheel to an inscription below: "There is a law irrevocably decreed in Heaven, before the foundations of the earth, upon which all blessings are predicated, and when we obtain any blessing from God it is by obedience to that law upon which it is predicated."—Joseph Smith.

"A remarkable statement," the observer admits. "This man Joseph Smith must have had real inspiration. I wonder where he got that idea?"

With this question in mind, and with the sublimity of this basic law of the Universe profoundly impressed upon him, the observer may continue on his way, or he may come into the room to make inquiries. If his inclination leads him inside, he is even more deeply moved when the Elders tell him that the statement in the window is not merely a quotation from the man, Joseph Smith, but that it is the word of the Lord as revealed to earth through Joseph Smith as a Prophet of God.

—Winston A. Macdonald
—Donald D. Glad

An institution is the lengthened shadow of one man, and all history resolves itself easily into the biography of a few stout and earnest persons. Let a man, then, know his worth, and keep things under his feet.

—Emerson

MISSIONARY

Elder Gail Cragun was given a missionary farewell party Friday evening, February 28. The chapel auditorium was filled to capacity by fellow members and friends. The Mormon Male Chorus, of which Gail is a member, sang several numbers, and presented to him a volume of the **Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants,** and **Pearl of Great Price** autographed by each chorus member. Elder Bagley, who fulfilled a mission in the same field as that to which Elder Cragun has been called, told of some of the experiences Gail might expect. Bishop Horace J. McFarlane gave Gail a hearty "God speed" and "God bless you" on behalf of the Bishopric and those present. After the program dancing was enjoyed until midnight. Elder Cragun received a generous contribution from voluntary donors.

COLLEGE

The Inner-Faith Council, a religious organization of the University of California campus, having representatives from fifteen of the leading Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish Clubs, has recently invited the Berkeley Deseret Club to join its organization.

The purpose of this Council is to promote a more sympathetic understanding among the various religious groups. It also strives to emphasize religion more fully in the daily lives of students.

Each of the fifteen religious clubs is represented by two members at the Council meetings.

The Berkeley Deseret Club has chosen Dilworth Jensen and Doris Farr, both graduate students at the University to represent this organization at the Council meetings.

Apostle John A. Widtsoe expressed the sincere hope that such an organization might be founded in many of the leading universities of the country.

SCOUTS

Another Roundtable was held at the Oakland Chapel on Sunday, March 8. Marshall Stoddard, the Scoutmaster of the Roundtable demonstrated the use of wicker and all present made useful momentos to take away with them.

Alameda's Troop 16 reported that they were invested on March 5. Tenderfoot badges were presented to Wayne Horman, Eugene Getz, Frank Stroobants, and Thomas Littleford. Jay Richardson became a First Class Scout. District Commissioner David C. Graves presented the troop charter and commissions to the troop committee. Stake Commissioner Marshall Stoddard with part of his Oakland Troop 57 conducted the ceremonies. J. Z. Richardson is the Scoutmaster and the committee is composed of Don Hughes (chairman), Leo H. Crandall, Hyrum H. Horman, Ernest Crasbee, H. S. Severs, and Roderick Hunt.

Troop 8 of Berkeley reported that it held a banquet for Scouts and their parents in the Social Hall on February 28. Oscar Kirkham was present. Mr. Kirkham was the speaker at the Sunday night meeting in the Berkeley Ward. A Court of Honor is planned for the latter part of March.

Dimond's Troop 72 is planning for a Court of Honor and a "Dads and Scouts Dinner," at which event about eighty persons are expected.

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• • • AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES • • •

PRIMARY

We rejoice over the splendid recovery of Ida Neilson who is convalescing at home following a major operation. Undoubtedly the faith and prayers of Primary workers of the whole Stake were instrumental in her recovery.

The month of April is the time appointed in which to complete collection of pennies to send to the Children's Hospital. April 19 has been set aside as the Sunday on which special material has been arranged to acquaint all church members with the fine work financed by the Primary Children who annually donate a penny for each year of their age.

For twenty-five years the Primary Children's Hospital has aided thousands of sick and crippled boys and girls in their struggle for health. In addition to the many pennies contributed by officers and children of the Primary Association there have been generous contributions from the First Presidency of the Church, and from friends, both members and non-members of the Church.

A staff of capable doctors have since 1911 given many thousands of dollars worth of service for the children who have been admitted to the hospital and for this service they have received no pay except in the appreciation of the children, their parents, and the officers of the Primary Association whose hearts rejoice at the restoration to health of nearly every child whose parents have sought the help they themselves could not provide.

The average number of patients in the hospital is about forty each month. The operating costs for one month are usually about $2,000.00, or about $50.00 per child.

The hospital needs a new fireproof building, the type of building which will make possible service for more children and include some of the new and improved methods now being used to assist boys and girls physically afflicted to be more safely, more quickly, and more permanently restored to health.

A generous response on the part of members of the church to this worthy objective through contributions of pennies would go far to insure success for the enlargement and improvement of the Primary Children's Hospital.

RELIEF SOCIETY

The general Relief Society Conference will be held in Salt Lake City on April 2 and 3. The theme of the conference is that the Relief Society should awake to its opportunities and responsibilities.

Stake conferences are being held in all the wards during March and April.

A few changes have been made in the organization of new officers. Brother Charles C. Carr is the new advisor from the High Priest Quorum.

Arthella Hughes of Berkeley is the Chorister and Eloise Nix the Oakland Theology leader.

Luncheon board meeting will be held Wednesday, March 18, at the home of Sarah E. Banning in Berkeley.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

There is to be a special Sunday School convention in connection with the April conference April 26. At nine o'clock Sunday morning a session for the Sunday School at which all the Stake Board members, one representative each from the Superintendency of each ward and the organist and chorister of each ward are especially urged to attend.

M. I. A.

The Annual M Men and Gleaner dinner and dance will be held at the Oakland Women's City Club Friday evening, March 27. The charge is $1.00 per plate.

The story-telling festival of the Oakland Stake will be held Friday evening, April 3, in the Berkeley Ward amusement hall. Each ward will present a ten minute act. Elsie Johnson is in charge of the affair.

BIRTHDAY PENNIES

Let's raise our thoughts to God for health,
For life brings forth no greater wealth.
But as we romp and sing and play
Let's think of those who're not so gay.
Of boys and girls who lie in bed
When they should play with us instead.
Let's help to make their lives more sunny
By sending in our birthday money.

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• • WARD NEWS • •

BAPTISMS

DAUGHTER—Geraldine McCarthy of Oakland.
DAUGHTER—Marilyn Alice Johnson of Dimond.
DAUGHTER—Pauline Andrews of Berkeley.
DAUGHTER—Betty Jean Rawson of Berkeley.
DAUGHTER—Ruby Jean Knowles of Alameda.
DAUGHTER—Louise Jannet of Elmhurst.
DAUGHTER—Louella Marchant of Elmhurst.
DAUGHTER—Shirley Mae Nethercott of Elmhurst.
DAUGHTER—Norma D. Birchell of Elmhurst.
DAUGHTER—Myrl Jean Webb of Elmhurst.
ADULT—Mrs. Annie Laurie Stewart Hall of Oakland.
SON—Theodore Wesley of Oakland.
SON—Claude Lewis Heater of Oakland.
SON—Elden T. Thompson of Berkeley.
SON—William Henry Holland of Berkeley.
SON—Vincent Alma Wood of Berkeley.
SON—Robert R. Knowles of Alameda.
SON—Norman Bevens of Elmhurst.
SON—Harold Mason of Elmhurst.

BIRTHS

DAUGHTER—To Mr. and Mrs. Waters, March 6, Albany.
DAUGHTER—To Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Everett, March 3, Oakland.
SON—To Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Rewe of Elmhurst.
SON—To Dr. and Mrs. Milton Reany, January 6, Elmhurst.
SON—To Mr. and Mrs. Elenn Smith, February 8, Elmhurst.

MARRIAGES

WRIGHT-SHIELDS—Rita Wright and Ray Shields of Oakland, February 22, in Albany.
ROGERS-COCHRAN—Dolores Rogers and Fred Cochran, March 10, Dimond.

ORDINATIONS

ELDERS—Howard Elliot of Elmhurst.
Harry Flaner of Elmhurst.
Walter Smither of Elmhurst.
Emerey Arnold of Elmhurst.
Marion Caldwell of Elmhurst.
William Sterritt of Elmhurst.
Eldon Marchant of Elmhurst.
Robert Stoker of Elmhurst.
Truman Nethercott of Elmhurst.
Ralph Lakness of Elmhurst.
George Apedaile of Elmhurst.
Vaun Moody of Elmhurst.
Iven Pearson of Elmhurst.
Theodore Law of Elmhurst.
Anders Anderson of Elmhurst.
DEACONS—Wayne Horman of Alameda.
Jack Kellar of Alameda.
Wallace Bessey of Alameda.

ALAMEDA

The Mormon Male Chorus entertained at the Sacrament meeting, Sunday, March 1.

We welcome two new families to the ward, Mrs. Jennie Gibson and Mrs. June Franklin from the Arlington Ward, Los Angeles Stake.

Mrs. Marie Johnson was sustained as secretary of the Sunday school and Wendell Jensen was sustained as class leader of the Gospel Doctrine class.

We are happy that through the efforts of Bishop Crandall our ward hall is being remodeled.

OAKLAND

Mrs. Sterling Aldridge entertained at a luncheon in honor of Miss Eva Brown, who is leaving in the near future for Salt Lake. Other guests were Mrs. Heber Brown, Mrs. Geo. W. Bagley, Mrs. Ralph Barney, Mrs. John Kerr, Mrs. Lester King, Mrs. Linford Pierce and Miss Cecelia Jensen.

The Oakland Ward Relief Society was recently reorganized with Mrs. Irene Bastow sustained as President. Mrs. Clara Fellers and Mrs. Katherine Norberg were retained as first and second counsellors respectively.

Mrs. Ralph Barney entertained at a birthday party for Mr. and Mrs. Linford Pierce, of Dimond, on Leap Year eve. It was a double birthday as both Mrs. Pierce and her husband were born on Leap Year day.

Mrs. Hubert Nielson left recently for Los Angeles, where she is vacationing for a few weeks.

DIMOND

Neita Van Noy had as her recent guests her brother and wife, Dr. and Mrs. Lorin Lewis of Burley, Idaho, and her brother Dow Lewis and daughter, Joyce, of Lewiston, Utah.

The girls' Choral under the direction of Jean Lauper will take part in the Sunrise Services Easter morning at Dimond Park.

We regret the departure of Willard Clarke and family for Los Angeles. During the short time Brother Clarke has had charge of the Senior Adult Class in Sunday School much interest has been shown.

The annual Relief Society party will be held in Dimond Hall, March 20. It will be in the form of an old fashioned costume party. A pleasant time is anticipated by all.

Nora B. Fish of Santa Barbara will make her home in Oakland for the next few months.

The basketball boys returned in high spirits from their trip to Salt Lake; much favorable comment was made of their clever playing, and good sportsmanship. Brom Cox was in charge of the group. Mrs. C. C. Cherrington, Mrs. Geo. Kilner, Jr., Elsie Brown, and Rose Eddington accompanied them.

MARTINEZ

Claude Wadsworth's mother, Mrs. Cottle, has returned to her home in Ogden after an extended visit in Martinez.

A branch Sunday School has been organized at Termey under the direction of Elder Leon Baer. The attendance and interest is gratifying. This Sunday School serves the district comprising Crockett, Selby, Termey and Rodeo.

The Deseret Club of Berkeley furnished the program for Sacrament Meeting on February 23.

Mrs. William Nelson has returned from the hospital where she underwent an operation. She is reported doing well.

ELMHURST

President Rose Edmonds of the Relief Society entertained at a luncheon in honor of the past presidency at her home recently. Those members of the past presidency present were Mary Partington, Irene Marchant, Rena Schipper and Mary Stoker. Mrs. Elizabeth Brummett, Charlotte Phillips and Jennie Paine of the new presidency were also present.

Reorganization of the Sunday School has been effected. The outgoing Superintendency was honorably released with a vote of thanks for their work and faithfulness to duty. Elder John Soelburg has been installed as new superintendent, with Elders Marton M. Moody and Ray Darton as first and second counsellors respectively.

BERKELEY

Three hundred persons attended the musical revue sponsored by the Berkeley Deseret Club held in the amusement hall Friday evening, March 6.

Soloists appearing in the revue included Le Grande Anderson, Louise Amos, and James Deane, violinist. Bennie Walker of radio fame was the guest star. The closing act was furnished by the Mormon Male Chorus. Eva Pinkerton was the mistress of ceremonies for the revue.

The annual Scout Parents' Night Banquet was held Friday evening, February 28, in the amusement hall, under the direction of Dr. Raymond Knight, Scoutmaster of the Berkeley Troop.

Oscar Kirkham was the speaker of the evening. Other scout leaders present included President Herms of the Berkeley Contra-Costa Council, Victor Lindblad, Scout Executive of the Council, and District Commissioner McLean.

The troop charter was presented to Dr. Knight by President Herms. Entertainment was furnished by the Boy Scout Orchestra. Bud Nuttal presented a dramatic reading. Mrs. A. D. Ericksen was in charge of the banquet.

Reorganization of the Sunday School Superintendency was effected March 15. Superintendent George Harding and his first Counsellor, Brother Okey, were honorably released with a vote of thanks. The new superintendency is headed by Kendall Thomas, with Vernon E. Jensen as first counsellor. Scott Dunham was retained as second counsellor.

RICHMOND

The Richmond Ward Relief Society held their annual conference Sunday evening, March 15. Sister Adrienne Gee and Sister Hick of the Stake Board were guest speakers. The new Relief Society Chorus made its initial appearance and was warmly welcomed.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernal Hopkins and daughter Dorothy have been the guests for two weeks of their brother, Bishop Arthur L. Hopkins and family. They left March 16 to return to their home in Soda Springs, Idaho.

Brother William R. Fuller was the guest of honor at a farewell party held at the home of Bishop Hopkins in February. Sixteen of his friends gathered to wish him Godspeed on his trip to Missouri. Sunday, March 15, he returned home again. He did Temple work in Salt Lake City, and reports everything fine in Missouri.

Sister Wynn left for her home in Salt Lake City, accompanied by her daughter, Naomi Layton and son.

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